

THE first matches in the new Anglo-Italian Semi-professional Tournament are now under a month away and Wycombe Wanderers have been busy finalising their plans for the two home and away matches.

Wanderers are one of six non-league clubs in England chosen to play in this new competition which has replaced its professional counterpart last won by Newcastle United. The six English clubs meet six Italian teams on a home and away basis and the two clubs from each country with the best records will contest the June final in Italy.

The 12 clubs have been split into three sections. Wycombe and Enfield play Teramo and Pistoiese, Wimbledon and Nuneaton meet Benevento and Siracusa while Stafford Rangers and Scarborough take on Monza and Udinese.

Of all the clubs, it seems that Monza and Scarborough are the two strongest contenders for the magnificent silver trophy. Scarborough, who beat Enfield 1-0 on aggregate to reach the F.A. Challenge Trophy final next Saturday, have lost only twice at home this season while Monza are nine points clear at the top of Group A in the Third Division of the Italian League. Scarborough were recently invited to take part when Wigan Athletic had to withdraw due to financial difficulties.

Wanderers have the added bonus of experiencing Italian soccer when they met Monza in the Anglo-Italian Trophy. They went down 1-0 in Italy but won the return leg 2-1 at Loakes Park to take the cup and medals.

Obviously, victories are a must in their two home matches if they are to reach the final on June 20.

The standard of Teramo and Pistoiese is difficult to gauge but having seen Monza in action, the Italians are likely to be fast and skilful. Teramo seem the stronger of the two sides, and are currently third in Group B of Division Three. Pistoiese are ninth.

In all three of the Italian Leagues, it is noticeable that goals are at a premium in Italy. Top club Rimini in Group B, for instance, have scored 41 goals in 28 matches and the next best is 31 goals also in 28 games. That averages at about one a game while many matches have been drawn. Pistoiese have drawn no fewer than 17 of their 29 games to date.

Wanderers are now preparing for the visits of the two Italian clubs. Pistoiese are the first opponents at Loakes Park on Tuesday, May 4, while Teramo come over on Wednesday, May 19.

The Blues must then wait until Saturday, June 12, for the first return tie. Wycombe have decided to make the Italian trip their

official club tour and leave Heathrow Airport on Friday, June 11. After the Pistoiese game on the 12th they have a break until Wednesday, June 16, when they visit Teramo.

The tourists will be based in Riccione which is halfway between the two clubs. They will have to travel 135 miles for the Pistoiese game and 145 to visit Teramo. The venue for the final, on Sunday, June 20, has yet to be decided.

Wycombe arrive back at Heathrow from Milan on Monday, June 21.

Here's the latest Italian League Division Three tables.

DIVISION 3

GROUP B

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Rimini | 28 | 20 | 5 | 3 | 41 | 13 | 45 |
| Parma | 28 | 12 | 11 | 5 | 31 | 17 | 35 |
| Teramo | 29 | 12 | 11 | 6 | 33 | 20 | 35 |
| Lucchese | 29 | 13 | 8 | 8 | 30 | 22 | 34 |
| Arezzo | 29 | 11 | 10 | 8 | 31 | 27 | 32 |
| Livorno | 29 | 11 | 10 | 8 | 27 | 27 | 32 |
| Giulianova | 29 | 9 | 12 | 8 | 25 | 19 | 30 |
| Anconitana | 29 | 8 | 14 | 7 | 26 | 25 | 30 |
| Pistoiese | 29 | 6 | 17 | 6 | 21 | 24 | 29 |
| Massese | 28 | 8 | 12 | 8 | 25 | 22 | 28 |
| Spezia | 29 | 7 | 14 | 8 | 25 | 27 | 28 |
| Pisa | 29 | 5 | 18 | 6 | 17 | 21 | 28 |
| Montevarchi | 29 | 10 | 7 | 12 | 16 | 25 | 27 |
| Empoli | 29 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 25 | 27 | 25 |
| Riccione | 29 | 9 | 7 | 13 | 29 | 33 | 25 |
| Grosseto | 29 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 25 | 33 | 25 |
| Ravenna | 29 | 7 | 9 | 13 | 21 | 32 | 23 |
| Chieti | 29 | 6 | 10 | 13 | 14 | 20 | 22 |
| Sangiovese | 28 | 4 | 14 | 10 | 15 | 24 | 22 |
| Olbia | 29 | 5 | 11 | 13 | 19 | 41 | 21 |

Latest results: Anconitana 1, Teramo 1, Pistoiese 1, Grosseto 1.

DIVISION 3

GROUP A

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Monza | 29 | 19 | 8 | 2 | 41 | 14 | 46 |
| Treviso | 29 | 14 | 9 | 6 | 36 | 24 | 37 |
| Cremonese | 29 | 14 | 9 | 6 | 28 | 18 | 37 |
| Lecco | 29 | 13 | 10 | 6 | 34 | 23 | 36 |
| Udinese | 29 | 14 | 5 | 10 | 31 | 27 | 33 |
| Mantova | 29 | 10 | 12 | 7 | 26 | 19 | 32 |
| Juniorcasale | 29 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 29 | 25 | 32 |
| Pro Vercelli | 29 | 11 | 10 | 8 | 24 | 23 | 32 |
| Venezia | 29 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 24 | 24 | 30 |
| Clodia | 29 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 29 | 31 | 29 |
| Pro Patria | 29 | 8 | 13 | 8 | 24 | 30 | 29 |
| Bolzano | 29 | 10 | 8 | 11 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| Seregno | 29 | 8 | 12 | 9 | 23 | 35 | 28 |
| Padova | 29 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 28 | 28 | 27 |
| Alessandria | 29 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 21 | 23 | 27 |
| S Angelo L. | 28 | 7 | 11 | 10 | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| Albese | 29 | 3 | 18 | 8 | 13 | 22 | 24 |
| Vigevano | 28 | 5 | 10 | 13 | 19 | 35 | 20 |
| Trento | 29 | 5 | 8 | 16 | 25 | 38 | 18 |
| Belluno | 29 | 0 | 8 | 21 | 10 | 43 | 8 |

Latest results: Monza 1, Seregno 0, Pro Patria 1, Udinese 0.

DIVISION 3

GROUP C

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Benevento | 29 | 18 | 6 | 5 | 45 | 22 | 42 |
| Sorrento | 29 | 15 | 10 | 4 | 32 | 11 | 40 |
| Lecce | 29 | 16 | 8 | 5 | 40 | 23 | 40 |
| Bari | 29 | 13 | 10 | 6 | 35 | 21 | 38 |
| Messina | 29 | 12 | 10 | 7 | 26 | 16 | 34 |
| Reggina | 29 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 32 | 22 | 32 |
| Salernitana | 29 | 10 | 11 | 8 | 29 | 22 | 31 |
| Nocerino | 29 | 12 | 7 | 10 | 27 | 22 | 31 |
| Campobasso | 29 | 12 | 7 | 10 | 26 | 23 | 31 |
| Crotone | 29 | 9 | 12 | 8 | 20 | 20 | 30 |
| Trapani | 29 | 8 | 12 | 9 | 17 | 20 | 28 |
| Turris | 29 | 10 | 7 | 12 | 23 | 28 | 27 |
| Siracusa | 29 | 10 | 7 | 12 | 18 | 25 | 27 |
| Barletta | 29 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 26 | 25 |
| Cosenza | 29 | 6 | 13 | 10 | 15 | 30 | 25 |
| Marsala | 29 | 8 | 7 | 14 | 17 | 35 | 23 |
| Casertana | 29 | 6 | 10 | 13 | 17 | 31 | 22 |
| Pro Vasto | 29 | 6 | 9 | 14 | 20 | 30 | 21 |
| Acireale | 29 | 3 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 32 | 19 |
| Potenza | 29 | 3 | 10 | 16 | 19 | 36 | 16 |

Latest results: Benevento 3, Potenza 1, Campobasso 2, Siracusa 0.